

I'm deeply concerned about the nature of this proposal. While consumers don't have a defined right to record everything that comes over their TV, I believe that large international media conglomerates have even less of a right to demand such a degree of control over what they broadcast over public airwaves and through the cable systems. It will be a sad day if the FCC, whose charter is to protect our communications spectrum, dabbles in copyright enforcement. Viacom is threatening to not broadcast in HDTV until the "broadcast flag" is mandated, but this is an issue that the market will handle on it's own.

If the industry figures out a way to do this on their own and the market accepts it, then so be it. But the FCC's role should not be the enforcement of copyright on material that media companies choose to broadcast over public airwaves.